

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CAIRO 21577 150556Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INRE-00 /026 W
-----049541 150559Z /21

O 141604Z DEC 77

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO USLO RIYADH IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2898

S E C R E T CAIRO 21577

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT)

FROM USDEL CAIRO NO. 0002

RIYADH FOR USDEL SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV XF US

SUBJECT: OPENING SESSION OF CAIRO MEETING

REF: USDEL CAIRO NO. 0001

1. OPENING SESSION OF CAIRO MEETING CONVENED ON
SCHEDULE AT 11:00 THIS MORNING. BREAKTHROUGH ON PRIN-
CIPAL PROCEDURAL PROBLEM REPORTED REFTEL WORKED OUT BY
EGYPTIANS AND ISRAELIS AT LAST MINUTE THIS MORNING ON
QUESTION OF EMPTY CHAIRS AT CONFERENCE. EGYPTIANS
INSISTED ON HAVING EMPTY CHAIRS BUT AGREED THAT THERE

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 CAIRO 21577 150556Z

WOULD BE NO PLACE CARDS FOR REPRESENTATIVES, WHETHER
PRESENT OR ABSENT. ALTHOUGH ISRAELIS NOT PARTICULARLY
HAPPY ABOUT THIS COMPROMISE, IT WAS IN FACT EGYPTIANS
THAT GAVE MOST OF GROUND ON THIS ISSUE.

2. THERE IS NO MEETING OF MINDS AS YET BETWEEN THE
ISRAELIS AND EGYPTIANS ON THE QUESTION OF WHO SHOULD

CHAIR CLOSED SESSIONS. IT WAS AGREED ABDEL MEGUID AS HOST WOULD ACT AS CHAIRMAN AT OPENING SESSION TODAY AND THAT QUESTION OF HOW CLOSED SESSIONS ARE TO BE RUN CAN BE AMONG SUBJECTS DISCUSSED INFORMALLY LATER TODAY. EGYPTIANS ARE STILL OPPOSED TO IDEA OF ALTERNATING CHAIR WITH ISRAELIS AND ABDEL MEGUID HOPES ISRAELIS WILL EVENTUALLY AGREE THAT EGYPTIANS CAN CONTINUE TO ACT INFORMALLY AS CHAIRMAN FOR REST OF MEETINGS. WE DO NOT THINK THIS IS GOING TO BE MAJOR PROBLEM.

3. LATER THIS AFTERNOON ABDEL MEGUID PLANS TO MEET INFORMALLY WITH ISRAELIS IN HIS SUITE WITH OURSELVES ALSO PRESENT (BUT NOT SIILASVUO) TO TALK MAINLY ABOUT QUESTION OF AGENDA FOR MEETINGS AS WELL AS ANY REMAINING PROCEDURAL PROBLEMS FOR CLOSED MEETINGS. PROBLEM OF AGENDA BEGINS TO LOOK AS IF IT MAY BE DIFFICULT ONE. ABDEL MEGUID IS THUS FAR STICKING FIRMLY TO POSITION THAT AGENDA SHOULD CONSIST OF FOUR ITEMS: (1) ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL TO 1967 BORDERS; (2) RESOLUTION OF THE PALESTINIAN QUESTION; (3) SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS; AND (4) TERMINATION OF THE STATE OF BELLIGERENCY. HE COMPLAINED THAT AT THIS POINT ISRAELIS SEEM TO WANT ONLY TO DISCUSS THEIR "DRAFT TREATY", WHICH ABDEL MEGUID DESCRIBED AS "MONSTROSITY." ON WHOLE, HOWEVER, PRIVATE EXCHANGES BETWEEN EGYPTIAN AND ISRAELI DELEGATION HAVE BEEN CORDIAL, AND ATMOSPHERE THUS FAR SEEMS REASONABLY GOOD FOR WORKING
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 CAIRO 21577 150556Z

OUT DIFFERENCES. CLEARLY BOTH SIDES ARE UNDER INSTRUCTION NOT TO ALLOW CONFERENCE TO GET BOGGED DOWN ON PROCEDURAL PROBLEMS.

4. OPENING SESSION, FROM WHICH WE HAVE JUST RETURNED, WAS CONSIDERABLE SUCCESS. AFTER HANDSHAKES ALL AROUND, WE SAT FOR HALF AN HOUR IN OUR PLACES WHILE WAVE AFTER WAVE OF PHOTOGRAPHERS AND TV CAMERAMEN WORKED US OVER. ARRANGEMENTS WERE WELL HANDLED THROUGHOUT. SPEECHES WERE SHORT, CONFINED LARGELY TO GENERALITIES (TEXTS BY SEPTELS), AND STRUCK THE RIGHT NOTE. REFLECTING DIFFERENCES OVER PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATION, ABDUL MEGUID IN NAMING ABSENT PARTIES REFERRED TO PLO, WHEREAS BEN-ELISSAR SPOKE OF APPROPRIATE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PALESTINIAN ARABS. IN MY REMARKS, I REFERRED SIMPLY TO ABSENCE OF "OTHERS" WHO HAD BEEN INVITED. SIILASVUO MADE VERY SHORT STATEMENT AND WAS ONLY AUTHORIZED TO DO THIS AFTER LATE NIGHT TELEPHONE CALL TO NEW YORK TO APPEAL EARLIER INSTRUCTIONS FROM WALDHEIM WHICH HIS POLITICAL ADVISOR, JAMES JONAH, INTERPRETED AS MEANING THAT HE SHOULD SAY NOTHING AT ALL. IN TERMS OF PUBLIC IMAGE, THIS HISTORIC MEETING GOT OFF TO GOOD START. EILTS.

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING PROCEEDINGS, PEACE TALKS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977CAIRO21577
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780016-0887, D770465-0873
Format: TEL
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771259/aaaabxhy.tel
Line Count: 116
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a835d504-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 244774
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OPENING SESSION OF CAIRO MEETING
TAGS: PGOV, XF, US, EG, IS
To: RIYADH
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a835d504-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009